

# ***ALASKA TRIBAL-STATE FORUM ON SAFETY AND JUSTICE***

***Southeast Region  
May 29-30, 2008  
Juneau, Alaska***

## ***REPORT***



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### **Sponsored by the Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault**

In partnership with the Alaska State Troopers, Alaska Department of Law, Alaska Court System, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and the Alaska Native Justice Center.

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Tribal-State Forum on Safety and Justice Agenda  
Alaska Native Brotherhood Hall  
Juneau, Alaska  
May 29-30, 2008

THURSDAY

- 8:00-8:30      *Registration*
- 8:30-9:00      **Welcome**  
*Deloresa Cadiente, Tlingit and Haida Tribal Court, Chief Justice*  
**Announcements and Introductions**
- 9:00-9:45      **Domestic Violence Basics**  
Ellen Naughter, Administrative Program Services Manager, Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies (AWARE, Inc)      *Break*
- 9:50 -10:35      **Healing Historical Trauma**  
Naomi Michalsen, Executive Director, Women in Safe Homes (WISH) and Alberta Aspen, AWARE 2008 Woman of Distinction *Break*
- 10:45-11:35      **Civil Legal Remedies: Protective Orders, Divorce and Child Custody**  
Kari Robinson, Director, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Legal Advocacy Project      *Break*
- 11:40 -12:30      **Domestic Violence: The Role of Law Enforcement and Mandatory Arrest**  
Katie TePas, Program Coordinator, Alaska State Troopers      *Break*
- 12:30-1:30      *Lunch*
- 1:30-2:10      **Batterers' Accountability and Interventions**  
Mandy O'Neal Cole, Direct Services Manager, AWARE and Glen Fazakerley, Batterers' Intervention Program Counselor, Ketchikan Indian Community      *Break*
- 2:15-3:00      **State Domestic Violence Laws and Prosecutorial Decision-Making**  
Julie Willoughby Assistant District Attorney, Sitka Office of the District Attorney      *Break*
- 3:10-3:55      **Victims' Rights and Victim/Witness Paralegals**  
Elisabeth Schafer, Victim/Witness Paralegal, Sitka Office of the District Attorney      *Break*
- 4:00-4:45      **The Role of the Court in Domestic Violence**  
The Honorable Keith Levy, Juneau District Court, Alaska Court System      *Break*
- 4:50-5:00      **Questions and Answers**

## FRIDAY

8:15-8:30      *Registration*

**8:30-9:20      Legal Advocacy and Mandated Reporting**

Andrea Browning, Coordinator, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Legal Advocacy Project *Break*

**9:25-10:10 Alaska Native Justice and Domestic Violence**

Mary Elam, Advocacy Coordinator, Alaska Native Justice Center

**10:20- 11:05 Tribal Jurisdictions and Tribal Courts**

Mary Elam, Advocacy Coordinator, Alaska Native Justice Center

**11:10-12:00 Practical Skills For Victim Advocacy and Safety Planning**

Patti Bland, Director of Training, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and Naomi Michalsen, Executive Director, WISH

12:00-1:00      *Lunch*

**1:00 – 1:40     Advocacy and Safety Planning Skills (continued)**

*Break*

**1:45-2:30      Advocacy for Survivors with Substance Use Issues**

Patti Bland, Director of Training, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

**2:40– 3:15 Southeast Prevention Strategies Panel**

Ati Nasiah, Rural and Community Outreach Manager, AWARE, Helen Abbott Watkins, AWARE 2008 Woman of Distinction, Katy Hopkins, Education Director, WISH and Lori Grassgreen, Director of Prevention Projects, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

*Break*

**3:20- 4:00      Challenges and Solutions Work Session**

**4:00 -4:20      Work Session Reports**

4:20 -4:30      **Evaluations**

**4:30-5:00      Closing Ceremony**

Yaaw Tei Yi (Herring Rock) Dancers, Juneau



## Participants



## Southeast Region Participants

Seventy-five (75) participants attended the two-day training held at the Alaska Native Brotherhood Hall in Juneau. Twenty-four (24) of the participants live in Juneau. Fifty (50) trainees traveled to Juneau from ten (10) smaller Southeastern communities and villages. The Alaska Court System Domestic Violence Coordinator traveled from Anchorage to attend the forum.

Anchorage (1)	Juneau (24)
Craig (4)	Kake (6)
Gustavus (1)	Ketchikan (12)
Haines (3)	Metlakatla (3)
Hollis (1)	Sitka (9)
Hydaburg (9)	Yakutat (2)

Participants included:

Attorneys/Law students (2)  
Attorney, legal assistant

Batterer intervention program staff (1)

Court personnel (3)  
DV coordinator, magistrates (2)

Educators (7)  
teacher, policy council vice chair, school board members (2), paraprofessional,  
Headstart teacher and secretary,

Government agency staff (2)  
OCS – family advocate, case worker

Health professionals (2)  
Field office coordinator, health aide

Law enforcement officers (4)  
detective, police officers (2), dispatcher

Legal services staff (1)  
office manager

Mental health professionals (12)

alcohol and drug counselor (2), community family service workers (4), counseling services executive director, mental health clinicians (2), school mental health program director, social worker, traditional counselor

Tribal government/Tribal government agency staff (11)

chief justice, tribal court clerks (2), tribal council president, council member, human services director, city clerk, youth counselor, wellness coordinator, tribal members (2)

Victim advocates (29)

AWARE, WISH and SAFV advocates (10), legal advocates (2), safe home provider, executive directors (2), rural and community manager outreach coordinators (2), education specialists (2), family service managers (2), volunteer coordinator, youth and outreach coordinators (2), business manager, administrative assistants (2), "woman of distinction", school district family advocate

Volunteers (1)

HOPE

## Presentations



Ellen Naughter, AWARE (left) and Saralyn Tabachnick, AWARE Executive Director (center) and Naomi Michalsen, WISH, Executive Director explain the basics of domestic violence and the services available to Southeast survivors.



Naomi Michalsen, WISH Executive Director and Alberta Aspen, AWARE 2008 Woman of Distinction talk about the need for Alaska Natives to heal from historical trauma.



Kari Robinson, Director of the ANDVSA Legal Advocacy Project (left) describes protection orders, divorce and child custody and Katie TePas, Alaska State Troopers Program Coordinator (right) explains mandatory arrest laws and law enforcement response.





Mandy O'Neal Cole, AWARE Direct Services Manager (left) talks about batterers' accountability programs. Elizabeth Schafer, Department of Law victim-witness paralegal (right) describes victims' rights.



Deputy Attorney General Rick Svobodny (left) explains how prosecutors make decisions in domestic violence cases and District Court Judge Keith Levy of Juneau (right) explains the role of the State court.



Mary Elam, Advocacy Coordinator and Linda McLaughlin, Victim Advocate/Trainer at the Alaska Native Justice Center (left) answer participants' (right) questions about tribal judicial responses to domestic violence.





Andrea Browning, ANDVSA Legal Advocacy Project Coordinator (left) helps participants review legal terms. Patti Bland, ANDVSA Director of Training and Naomi Michalsen WISH Executive Director (right) provide practical safety planning tips for domestic violence survivors.



Southeast Prevention Strategies Panel: Ati Nasiah, AWARE Rural and Community Outreach Manager, Lori Grassgreen, ANDVSA Director of Prevention Projects, Helen Abbott Watkins, AWARE 2008 Woman of Distinction, Katy Hopkins, Education Director, WISH (left). Advocates work with participants to identify local challenges and solutions to domestic violence (above right and below).



## **Faculty and Staff**

Twenty-one (21) faculty and staff participated in or presented at the forum.

Alberta Aspen, AWARE 2008 Woman of Distinction

Patricia Bland, ANDVSA, Director of Training

Andrea Browning, ANDVSA, Legal Advocacy Project Coordinator

Mandy O'Neal Cole, AWARE Direct Services Manager

Mary Elam, Alaska Native Justice Center, Advocate Coordinator

Glen Fazakerley, Batterers' Intervention Program Counselor, Ketchikan Indian Community

Sherrie Goll, Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Project Coordinator

Lori Grassgreen ANDVSA Director of Prevention Projects

Jo Griggs, CDVSA Business Manager

Katy Hopkins, WISH Education Director

Honorable Keith B. Levy, Alaska Court System, District Court Judge

Linda McLaughlin, Alaska Native Justice Center, Victim Advocate/Trainer

Naomi Michalsen, WISH, Executive Director

Ati Nasiah, AWARE Rural and Community Outreach Manager

Ellen Naughter, AWARE Administrative Program Services Manager

Kari Robinson, ANDVSA, Legal Advocacy Project Director

Elisabeth Schafer, Sitka Office of the District Attorney, Victim-Witness Paralegal

Richard Svobodny, Alaska Department of Law, Deputy Attorney General

Saralyn Tabachnick, AWARE Executive Director

Katie TePas, Alaska State Troopers, Program Coordinator

Helen Abbot Watkins, AWARE 2008 Woman of Distinction

## **Training Content Areas**

### **Domestic Violence and Victim Advocacy**

Advocate response  
Confidentiality and legal advocacy  
Domestic violence overview, dynamics, services  
Safety planning for victims/survivors  
Sexual assault overview  
Stalking overview

### **Justice System**

Civil court procedures  
Criminal court procedures  
Decreasing dual arrests/ID of primary aggressor  
Domestic violence statutes and codes  
Law enforcement response  
Judicial Response  
Pro-arrest policies  
Prosecution response  
Protection orders (including full faith and credit)  
Sexual assault statutes and codes  
Stalking statutes and codes  
Tribal jurisdiction and PL 280  
Victims' Rights

### **Community Response**

Prevention Strategies

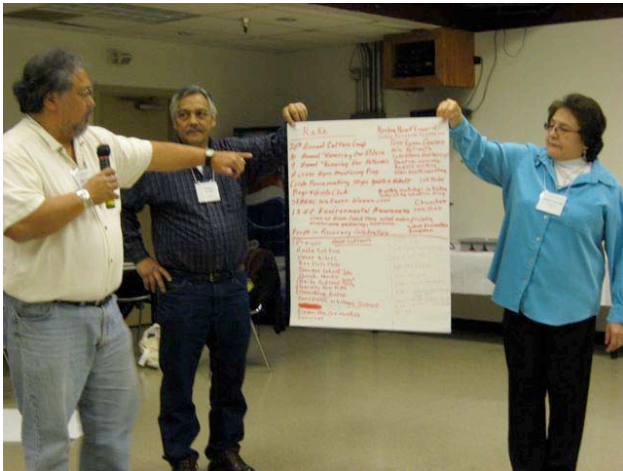
### **Underserved Populations**

Issues specific to victims/survivors who:

- live in rural areas
- are Alaska Natives
- have substance abuse or mental health problems
- are elderly or have a disability



## Local Challenges and Solutions





## **Southeast Challenges and Solutions**

### **GOOD THINGS HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITIES**

“Road to recovery” – music art  
Radio diaries – stories of recovery  
Culture camps  
Sweat lodges  
Big Brothers/Big Sisters  
TYDE– tribal youth diversion effort  
Teen centers - lock-ins  
Mentoring  
Senior/Youth exchange  
Weekend activities for kids incorporating parents (planned dinner)  
Kids plan for international trip with adult support  
POW community garden – youth design of entryway - “Planting Seeds”  
Church wilderness club - connects boys with healthy male role models  
Head start program  
Violence education program on Prince of Wales  
POW: COHO school based program, HOPE, Therapeutic foster care/children’s mental health  
Haida culture  
Social services  
Metlakatla Wings program  
Lepquinum Wellness Center  
Fit Kids program  
Safe homes  
KPD fall/spring safety at all the schools  
Sitka and Ketchikan - bike rodeo – school resource office  
Ketchikan Youth court  
Native land – sovereignty  
Unrestricted access to subsistence food in Native communities  
WISH and SAFV  
Community connections

Kake  
20<sup>th</sup> annual culture camp  
10<sup>th</sup> annual “honoring our elders”  
9<sup>th</sup> annual “honoring our veterans”  
Circle peace-making, 10 years, youth and adult  
Across-ages mentoring program  
Boys and Girls Club  
SEARHC Wise Woman – wellness program  
CFSW  
Salvation Army monthly workshops on healing subjects  
Churches  
Safe home  
Healing Heart Council  
School resource counselors  
School prevention programs  
Keex Kwaan Dancers

Mini retreats  
Subsistence gatherings  
Beading, carving, regalia making  
Elder grief counseling  
OVK Tribal  
ISAP environmental awareness – clean up grave island, town, school science projects, aluminum cans, gardening, medicine

People in recovery celebration  
8 Alaska Native dance groups  
Youth cultural community camp  
Alaska Native Food Banks  
Veteran Color Guard  
Elders program – many volunteers  
HEARTS – Healing Every Abuse and Recovering Through Story  
Partner with Southcentral Foundation – Beauty for Ashes – Family Wellness Warriors Initiative  
ANS-ANB

#### WHAT MORE CAN WE DO

Use existing resources (boys and girls club, schools, boy scouts, churches, parenting classes, school programs, public health, probation officers)  
Find key people - train them how to deal with dv in their community  
Promote healthy lifestyles and healing  
Promote culture by sharing music, dance, language, writing, drumming, gathering, regalia  
Culture camps  
Talking Circles  
Fish camps  
Sweat lodges – accessible - men only, women only, family  
Safe home in village - place to hang out/fun  
Implement – “Respect Your Kid Zone” – a place in house where smoking and drinking is hidden from kids at home  
Family collaboration – family mentors – family healing – ending the cycle of violence  
Youth Movie Night at the ANB hall  
Boys and Girls Club  
Ceremonies highlighting positive actions  
Collaboration schools  
Cornerstone transitional schools  
Summer school  
Educate on physical effects of alcohol  
Educate on healthy relationships  
AWARE booth at Celebration  
Honor veterans  
Honor elders  
Prayer  
Church camps  
Haida culture – artist carving  
Culturally supported grieving in community  
Learn how to put up subsistence food  
Coordinate with villages support  
Sobriety – stay sober – as leaders

Scared straight – alcohol and drugs

Change city limit ordinances dictating distance from liquor stores and family oriented places, schools etc

Clean the communities

This forum as often as possible - bigger place for forum conference

Wellness Koo.eex

Women's advocacy in prisons– transitional programs – sweat lodges, talking circles = healing

Survival

Subsistence - richest man will be the poorest when the computers go out – use our resources of land and subsistence to offset high cost of living to prevent violence.

Honor our lives – youth and elders – not just at funerals

## SOME CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

Challenge: continuity of safety information between home and school

Solution: give students workbooks that cover the lessons to take home, review with parents, have parents sign and give kids prizes for returning

Challenge: marketing and democratization of parent and youth language

Solution: sensitivity to and diversification of communication styles

Challenge: need to get women engaged and attending support groups in shelter

Solution: requirement to participate, enforced three strike system with consequences, and verbal warning or write up plan

Challenge: Desire/need to share what works and doesn't work between Alaska's shelters

Solution: Weekly exchanges to shadow & train for shelter's staff

Challenge: Reach at risk youth not accessible through the normal channels (schools)

Solution: Approach non-traditional channels like youth residential facilities and work with the youth to identify what their needs are in their own words

Challenge: Survey risky behavior by teens, dating violence, drug abuse, suicidal tendencies

Solution: Review surveys and prioritize what youth see as their main needs

Challenge: Link between alcohol and sexual assault are linked but information is infrequently addressed where drinking takes place

Solution: Make laminated tip and fact sheets and post in places where drinking occurs and where drunk people are found like bar bathrooms and taxi cabs

## MORE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS

How to get parents involved in schools

Boys and girls club closed in summer or not open late enough

Assertiveness training

Youth not here today

Parental engagement in youth programs

## Closing Ceremony -Yaaw Tei Yi (Herring Rock) Dancers, Juneau

